



**Amherst Medical Reserve Corps**  
AMHERST HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
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## April 2005 Amherst MRC Updates

- **MRC Badge Update**

Thank you for getting your ID photos taken. When I return I will follow up to make arrangements for anyone who has missed the photo-taking in order to set up another time. Based on previous ideas and new information from the National Conference, we will be color-coding the ID badges based on a tiered staffing level system (such as: non-medical, medically trained, and currently medically licensed) and distributing them at our next training. Note: In order to receive your ID Badge, which may be considered a "Credential" at a local emergency scene, all application materials and licensure checks must be complete. I will be in touch with you if you are missing any pieces. You probably know who you are. ☺

- **Training Schedule Changes (see reverse side)**

The training topic for May 9 will be Incident Command System and June's topic is TBA. All locations and dates will remain the same. I will have meeting locations for the second half of the year by our May 9 training.

- **Disaster Behavioral Health Follow Up**

Our March training seemed to be a huge success and there was much interest in debriefing skills. I am looking into setting up training for our team to become skilled in debriefing. Josh, Julie, and I will be meeting with folks at the schools regarding collaboration and have had the idea of possibly setting up a mock debriefing in collaboration with the school nurses. I will keep you posted on progress with this idea. Also: Please let Kate know if you are willing to help brainstorm and create a set of MRC plans/standard operating guidelines for disaster behavioral health. This would require a few meetings this spring & summer to outline and create a set of plans for our MRC's role in a local emergency.

- **2005 National MRC Conference**

...I'll be on my way back as you meet. I will be sharing ideas and lessons learned at our next meeting. The Easthampton MRC staff and Kate's presentation at the conference reviews both of our MRCs' experiences with the November 13 Emergency Dispensing Site exercise.

- **Public Access Defib Project**

A task force of concerned staff from the Senior Center, Health Department, Leisure Services and Supplemental Education Department (LSSE), and Amherst Fire Department has recruited willing staff to become trained in the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and to maintain AED units in the two buildings. This group has identified both the Bangs Community Center and Amherst Town Hall as ideal locations for Automated External Defibrillators, or AEDs. **If you have ideas about folks or organizations in the community to whom this letter could be sent or are willing to help with this community project, please let Kate know ASAP.**

### NEXT MRC MEETING & TRAINING:

6:30pm May 9 Bangs Center - South Meeting Room (101)

Topic: Incident Command System

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